

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

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TAGS: ENRG, CSCE, ECE

SUBJECT: ECE - ELECTRIC POWER COMMITTEE - CSCE FOLLOWUP

1. ECE ELECTRIC POWER COMMITTEE OPENED 34TH SESSION NOVEMBER 17 WITH ELECTION OF GIOVANNI COLAMARINO (ITALY) AS CHAIRMAN AND STATEMENT ON COMMITTEE'S FUTURE ACTIVITIES BY ECE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY JANEZ STANOVNIK.

2. STANOVNIK SAID ENERGY CRISIS PRESENTED THREEFOLD CHALLENGE: (1) CONSERVATION, (2) NEW TECHNOLOGY, AND (3) COOPERATION. CITING CSCE FINAL ACT, HE SAID THAT DESPITE CHALLENGE, OPPORTUNITIES ARE NOW BETTER THAN AT ANY TIME SINCE END OF WORLD WAR II. AS IN REMARKS TO COAL COMMITTEE, STANOVNIK SAW CRISIS AS STRUCTURAL, LONG-TERM PROBLEM, NOT MERELY CYCLICAL PHENOMENON. HE ASSERTED THAT TREMENDOUS GROWTH IN USE OF ELECTRIC POWER SINCE END OF WORLD WAR II COULD NOT BE EXTRAPOLATED INTO FUTURE, SINCE THIS WOULD REQUIRE FIVE-FOLD INCREASE BY YEAR 2000 WHICH WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE IN TERMS OF BOTH SUPPLY AND ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECT.

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3. STANOVNIK SAW VITAL NEED, HOWEVER, FOR LONG-TERM

PROJECTIONS TO KNOW POLICY OPTIONS IN SECTOR WHICH REQUIRED TREMENDOUS INVESTMENT AND LONG TIME TO DEVELOP SUPPLY, AND HE CALLED ON COMMITTEE TO SHIFT THINKING FROM CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS TO LONG TERM PLANNING. IN THIS REGARD, HE CALLED FOR COOPERATION WITH ECE'S SENIOR ECONOMIC ADVISERS WHO ARE PREPARING OVERALL ECONOMIC PERSPECTIVE FOR ECE REGION.

4. STANOVNIK SAW INEVITABLE ECONOMIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL NEED FOR LIMITATION OF CONVENTIONAL FUELS FOR ELECTRIC POWER GENERATION AND FOR PROVISION OF SUBSTITUTE, PRIMARILY IN FORM OF NUCLEAR POWER, HE SAID THAT DEVELOPMENT OF NUCLEAR POWER, WHICH WOULD PROBABLY ACCOUNT FOR 20 PERCENT OF ELECTRIC POWER PRODUCTION WITHIN DECADE, WOULD PRESENT THREE MAJOR PROBLEMS: (1) AVAILABILITY OF FUELS, (2) ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT, AND (3) CAPITAL SHORTAGE. HE CALLED FOR FULL INTEGRATION OF NUCLEAR POWER INTO TEXTURE OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION. IN THIS EFFORT, HE SAID, ELECTRIC POWER COMMITTEE SHOULD GIVE PRIORITY ATTENTION TO IMPLICATIONS FOR ELECTRIC POWER INDUSTRY IN ECE REGION.

5. THIRDLY, STANOVNIK SAID ALL POSSIBLE MUST BE DONE TO CONSERVE AND RATIONALIZE PRESENT USE OF ENERGY, SINCE INDUSTRY WOULD STILL HAVE TO RELY LARGELY ON CONVENTIONAL FUELS FOR TWO OR THREE DECADES. IN THIS REGARD HE CALLED FOR ELECTRIC POWER COMMITTEE COOPERATION IN REVISION OF STUDY ON MEASURES TO ACHIEVE INCREASED ECONOMY AND EFFICIENCY IN EXTRACTION, CONVERSION, TRANSPORT AND USE OF ENERGY IN ECE REGION (E/ECE/883).

6. FOURTHLY, STANOVNIK REFERRED TO CONCERN RE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF NUCLEAR POWER PRODUCTION. HE SPECULATED THAT IT MIGHT BE NEARLY COMPARABLE WITH ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF ENERGY PRODUCTION UTILIZING CONVENTIONAL FUELS AND SAW ROLE FOR ELECTRIC POWER COMMITTEE IN PROGRAM OF INFORMATION AND EDUCATION OF PUBLIC OPINION.

7. FINALLY, STANOVNIK SUGGESTED THAT ELECTRIC POWER COMMITTEE GIVE GREATER IMPORTANCE IN ITS WORK PROGRAM TO INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION, E.G., THROUGH PROJECTS RELATING TO INTERCONNECTION OF ELECTRIC POWER TRANSMISSION SYSTEMS OF UNCLASSIFIED

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ECE COUNTRIES AND CONSTRUCTION OF LARGE ELECTRIC POWER GRIDS.

8. WHILE STANOVNIK SUGGESTIONS WELCOMED WARMLY BY MOST DELEGATIONS, FRG DELEGATE REFERRED TO ONGOING CONSULTATIONS IN GENEVA ON ROLE OF ECE IN CSCE FOLLOW-UP, WITH FINAL DECISION ON REVISION OF WORK PROGRAMS TO BE MADE BY ECE AT MARCH PLENARY MEETING IN CONTEXT OF OVERALL PRIORITIES AND BUDGETARY CONSIDERATIONS. STANOVNIK RESPONDED THAT

HIS REPORT TO ECE ON FUTURE WORK OF ECE PRINCIPAL SUBSIDIARY BODIES WOULD SET FORTH SEVERAL OVERALL AREAS WHERE COMMITTEES MIGHT CONCENTRATE THEIR ACTIVITIES BUT WOULD NOT DEAL WITH SPECIFIC PROJECTS FOR WORK PROGRAMS. AS FOR BUDGETARY RESTRICTIONS, HE SAID HE HAD MADE QUITE CLEAR HIS NEED FOR TWO MORE PROFESSIONAL POSTS AND FOUR MORE GENERAL SERVICE POSTS OVER NEXT TWO YEARS THAN ACABQ AND GA FIFTH COMMITTEE HAD ALLOWED AND THAT HE WOULD HAVE NO MORE TO SAY ON THE SUBJECT.DALE

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